



HISTORY OF PIKE COUNTY

AMERICAN LEGION

POST 197

Zebulon, Georgia

From 1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021

By Bryan D. Richardson

Post Commander and Historian

Bryan D. Richardson
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Commander/Historian
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Chapter 1

Introduction

On 2 May 1946, The American Legion Post 197 of Pike County was officially chartered. For nearly fifty years, Pike County Post 197 remained active in the community and state; and then in 1994, it had its charter revoked. In 2008, a group of Pike County Veterans met at the Pike County Court House Square to discuss the restoration of the Veteran's Monument. Three months later, Pike County American Legion Post 197 was reestablished. On 12 June 2013, the Post became incorporated to protect individual members from liability in the event of litigation against the Post.

It is very important for Post 197 to provide information to Veterans that reside in Pike County and neighboring counties about the importance of joining a Veteran's organization that truly cares for and understands the concerns of Veterans and their families. Pike County Post 197 is proud to assist "All Veteran's and their families", regardless of American Legion affiliation. It is Post 197's mission to make sure all Veterans know about the assistance it and the American Legion can provide.

As this reporting period begins on 1 May 2020, here in Georgia as with the nation, the COVID-19 (Corona Virus) pandemic although fortunately is winding down, still has lingering effects on the conduct of the Pike County community. Some individual citizens, businesses, schools, and organizations are still affected as social distancing, staying at home, and increased sanitation measures are being conducted. Due to the high risk of Post 197 and Legion Family members, protective measures still are in effect. Annual community and Veteran support activities are being modified to the existing disease threat level. Throughout most of the reporting period, Post operations were minimized to essential tasks, and Post meetings were modified using audio-

conferencing. The Post Executive Committee begins this History Report period conducting audio-conferencing meetings to continue Post 197 essential business, operations, and planning as well as in lieu of the monthly General Membership meetings. It is expected that Post 197 will soon ramp up its social gatherings and activities, return to "normal", fully continue its missions of assisting Veterans and their families and honoring Veterans.



Photo: Post 197 Honor Guard (Stefan Huckaby, Matt Germain, Bryan Richardson, and Stephan Golias (Team Lead))

Key Post 197 Information

Commander: Bryan D. Richardson

C: 678-764-2611; Email address: rich5060@bellsouth.net

Adjutant: Dennis D. Tea

C: 803-230-0489; Email address: dennis@southernrea.com

Service Officer: Dennis D. Tea

C: 813-230-0489; Email address: dennis@southernrea.com

Post Mailing Address: P.O. 781, Zebulon, Ga 30295

Post Location: 645 Meansville Street, Zebulon, Georgia

Chapter 2

Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution
of the United States of America;
- To maintain law and order;
- To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
- To preserve the memories and incidents
of our associations in all wars;
- To inculcate a sense of individual obligation
to the community, state and nation;
- To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;
- To make right the master of might;
- To promote peace and goodwill on earth;
- To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles
of justice, freedom and democracy;
- To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship
by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Chapter 3

2020-2021 Post Officers

Commander	Bryan D. Richardson
Adjutant	Dennis D. Tea
Finance Officer	Peggi J. Payton
Senior Vice Commander	William B. Walker, Jr.
Junior Vice Commander	Paul R. Chatterton
Junior Vice Commander	Stephen A. Golias
Judge Advocate	Vacant
Chaplains	Darryl B. Segraves and Billy J. Payton, Sr
Service Officer	Dennis D. Tea
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent-at-Arms	Stefan R. Huckaby
Sr. Executive Committee Members	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Steven T. Yerkes

Chapter 4

2020-2021 Post Committees and Chairpersons

Americanism	Bryan D. Richardson
Children & Youth	Peggi J. Payton
National Security	Stefan R. Huckaby
Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation	Dennis D. Tea
Finance	Peggi J. Payton
Membership	William B. Walker
House & Entertainment	Billy J. Payton
Sons of American Legion (SAL)	William B. Walker
Public Relations	Dennis D. Tea
Religious Emphasis	Darryl Segraves

Chapter 5

One Year Post Chronicle: May 2020 – April 2021

May 2020

1 May: Beginning of report period: Post 197 and the community continue to operated under the affects and restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

5 May, 7:30 p.m., Participants of the 25 May 2020 Memorial Day Observance Radio Broadcast Program conducted their second Program Recital. Required participants present at the audio conference recital were:

AL Members: Paul Harris, Stephen Golias, Bart Brock, and Bryan Richardson

Community Participants: John Hanson and Denise Long, Jon and Barbara Pessolano (Recording Technicians).

7 May, Post 197 2020-2021 Post Officer Elections. Due to the effects of the COVID-19 (Corona Virus). Post 197 was directed to maintain the existing 2019-2020 elected and appointed Post officers. Officers were given the option of resigning and there were none. The following officers will continue throughout the 2020-2021 Legion year:

Cdr/Historian	Bryan Richardson
Sr Vice Cdr	Bill Walker
Jr Vice Cdr	Paul Chatterton
Jr Vice Cdr	Stephen Golias
Adjutant/Ser Officer	Dennis Tea
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton
Sr Ex Com Member	Billy Payton, Sr.
Sr Ex Com Member	Matt Germain
Sr Ex Com Member	Steve Yerkes
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves/Billy Payton
Sgt-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby

7 May, 7:30 p.m., Participants of the 25 May 2020 Memorial Day Observance Radio Broadcast Program conducted their third Program Recital. Required participants present at the audio conference recital were:

AL Members: Darryl Segraves and Bryan Richardson

Community Participants: Rebekah Hanson, Jon and Barbara Pessolano (Recording Technicians).

13 May, activities started at 12:30 p.m. at the Moody Daniel Funeral Home and Fincher Memorial Cemetery. Post 197 members attend the funeral procession and graveside service of Post member Robert L. Huckaby. Post Commander Richardson officiated the service which included the reading of Huckaby's military biography. Billy Payton, Sr., Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias were pall bearers. Peggi Payton was a casket guard. Other Legionnaires present at the service were Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby (Next of Kin), William Huckaby (Family), Danny Jeffreys, Randy Martin, Jeff Sheriff, Jim Totten, and Steven Yerkes. Legion Family participation and community attendance was still under the Georgia Executive Order for selected population (mainly over 65 years

of age, and pre-existing medical issues) “shelter in place” restrictions and social distancing.

13 May, 7:30 p.m., Participants of the 25 May 2020 Memorial Day Observance Radio Broadcast Program conducted their fourth and final Program Recital. Required participants present at the audio conference recital were:

AL Members: Peggi Payton and Bryan Richardson

ALA Member: Willa Payton

Community Participants: Barbara Pessolano (Recording Technician).

14 May, 2:00 p.m., Post 197 Commander Bryan Richardson represented the Post at Post member Arnold Jones’ graveside service. Richardson provided Arnold Jones’ military biography during the service and presented the folded flag to the next of kin.

14 May, 6:00 p.m., In lieu of the monthly General Membership meeting the Post 197 Executive Committee conducted an audio-conferencing meeting to continue Post business and operations.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained

Finance Report: General fund: \$4,357.79

16 May, 2:00 p.m., Commander Bryan Richardson, Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby, and Senior Executive Committee Member Matt Germain represented Post 197 at Veteran Edward Rivers’ Memorial Service. Richardson provided Edward Rivers’ military biography during the service, Huckaby and Germain folded the casket flag, and Richardson presented the folded flag to the next of kin.

25 May, 10:00 a.m., the Pike County American Legion Family 197 hosted the annual Pike County Memorial Day Observance Program. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic still in force, the Legion Family broadcasted the Program on WKEU “The Rock”, FM 88.9 and AM 1450. This was the first time the Legion Family has conducted a virtual type patriotic program.

28 May, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present

Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained

Finance Report: General fund: \$4,109.45.

31 May, 3:00 p.m. Post 197 members attended the graveside service of WWII Veteran and Post 197 member Marion O. Gooden at the Ebenezer United Methodist Church Cemetery. In attendance from Post 197 were Stephen Golias and Bryan Richardson.

June 2020

2 Jun, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance was SAL Chaplain Bart Brock, Post Commander Bryan Richardson, and Post 197 Chaplain Darryl Segraves who provided the Prayer.

11 Jun, 6:00 p.m., In lieu of the monthly General Membership meeting the Post 197 Executive Committee conducted an audio-conferencing meeting to continue Post business and operations.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Absent
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Absent

A quorum was obtained

Finance Report: General fund: No report provided

13 Jun, 4:30 p.m. Post 197 members attended the family visitation of Vietnam Veteran Larry Webb at the Cox Funeral Home near Manchester, GA. Post 197 had gotten to know Larry Webb as a result of a request to build a handicap ramp project. Unfortunately, Larry passed away before the ramp could be built. In attendance at the family visitation from Post 197 were Stephen Golias and Bryan Richardson.

14 Jun, Due to the COVID-19 continued conditions, the annual Legion Family hosted Flag Day Observance and Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Post pavilion area was cancelled.

16 Jun, 7:00 p.m. New members of the Post 197 Honor Guard conducted a Start-up Meeting to discuss Honor Guard Team objectives, requirements, duties, operations, training, uniform, and the future. Present at the meeting were Commander Bryan Richardson, facilitator; Jr. Vice Commander Stephen Golias,

officer in charge, Sgt-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby, Sr Executive Committee Member, Matt Germain, and Auxiliary Member Brenda Runyon. Chaplain Darryl Segraves also interested in being a member of the Team was not present.

25 Jun, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Absent
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained

Finance Report: General fund: \$3,808.48.

July 2020

7 Jul, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family did not meet for Prayer for the Troops at the Veterans Memorial.

9 Jul, 6:00 p.m., In lieu of the monthly General Membership meeting the Post 197 Executive Committee conducted an audio-conferencing meeting to continue Post business and operations.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained

Finance Report: General fund: No report provided

30 Jul, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Excused

Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Departed early
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: No report provided

Post member April Asher was invited as a guest to discuss Facebook and Group options.

August 2020

4 Aug, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance was Post Commander Bryan Richardson, Past Post 197 Chaplain Paul Harris, and guest Kathy Richardson. Paul Harris provided the Prayer.

13 Aug, 6:00 p.m., In lieu of the monthly General Membership meeting the Post 197 Executive Committee conducted an audio-conferencing meeting to continue Post business and operations.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: No report provided

27 Aug, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Late
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: No status provided

30 Aug, 6:00 p.m. Post 197 Conducted is annual Awards Ceremony at the Moody-Daniel Funeral Home. Those in attendance receiving awards were:

- William (Bill) Walker: 10-Year Continuous Membership
- Timothy (Tim) Dukes: 5-Year Continuous Membership
- Pike County Journal Reporter (Rachel McDaniel) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Sheriff's Office (Bill Walker) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Georgia Department of Veteran Services (Rob Johnson) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Government Offices (Chairman Briar Johnson and County Manager Brandon Rogers Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Moody-Daniel Funeral Home (Sherri Moody) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Law Enforcement of the Year (Christopher DeMarco) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Pike County Fire Fighter of the Year (Douglas Neath) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Pike County Emergency Medical Services Member of the Year (Bart Brock) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Post 197 Volunteer of the Year (Stefan Huckaby) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Runner-up Volunteer of the Year (Jeff Sheriff) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year (Melissa Patten) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Legion Family of the Year – Harmon Family (Joseph Harmon & Marie Eason) Post 197 Certificate

Not in attendance receiving awards:

- 10 Year Continuous Membership: April Asher, Brian Callaway, Merrill Hammock, Howard (Danny) Jeffreys, and Jimmy Pitts
- 5 Year Continuous Membership: Michael (Steve) Hicks, Pasquale L. Pietrefesa, Talena Smith, Harold (Hal) Williams, and James Wilson
- Pike County Times (Becky Watts) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County School Operations (Sherry Westbrook) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year (Dennis Tea, Peggi Payton, and Willa Payton) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Legionnaire of the Year (Dennis Tea)

September 2020

1 Sep, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance was Post Commander Bryan, Past Post Chaplain 197 Paul Harris, and Post Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby. Chaplain Harris provided the Prayer.

10 Sep, 6:00 p.m., In lieu of the monthly General Membership meeting the Post 197

Executive Committee conducted an audio-conferencing meeting to continue Post business and operations.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: \$3,073.92

11 Sep, 10:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m., Post 197 provided a 9-11 Memorial Display during Patriots Day at the Pike County Courthouse Square. Post 197 also provided a voter registration and an America Legion / Veterans information table.

Post 197. Volunteers consisted of Stefan Huckaby, Matt Germain, Stephen Golias, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. Members of the Post 197 Honor Guard debut their new team uniforms for the first time.

18 Sep, 10:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m., Post 197 provided a POW/MIA Memorial Display during the National POW/MIA Recognition Day at the Pike County Courthouse Square. Post 197 also provided a voter registration and an America Legion / Veterans information table. Post 197. Volunteers consisted of Stefan Huckaby, Stephen Golias, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff.

23 Sep, 3:45 a.m. - Cdr was invited by the high school to attend the military commitment of Alyssa Cato and Devin Forde to the U.S. Marines. Cdr Richardson presented the American Legion Military Commitment Certificate of Commendation to the two high school seniors and the Blue Star Certificate of Honor to their families.

24 Sep, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing. The Commander also held a special general membership meeting to vote on the acceptance of American Legion transfer Garrett Pourron.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Absent

A quorum was obtained.

One member, Ewell Bell dialed in for the vote. Transfer was approved.
 28 Sep, 7:30 – 1000 a.m., Post 197 hosted its third in Zebulon and 11th overall 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk Fundraiser at the Post facility. Profits from fundraiser totaled \$3,862.36 which helped support the Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony. Volunteers consisted of Bryan Richardson (AL) Event Director, Steve Huckaby (AL), Stephen Golias, Bart Brock (SAL), Jeff Sheriff (AL), and Kathy Richardson

October 2020

6 Oct, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members, Stefan Huckaby, Stephen Golias, Bryan Richardson, and Darryl Segraves. One guest, Dawn Golias attended Post 197 Chaplain Darryl Segraves provided the Prayer.

10 Oct, 6:00 p.m., Post General Membership Monthly Meeting: For the first time since March 2020, Post 197 conducted its first general membership meeting inviting members to dial in to the teleconference. Post Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Absent
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

Attendance: 6 Officers, 0 members, and 0 guests for a total of 6

A quorum of officers was obtained.

General Fund Status: No report provided

29 Oct, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing.

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Absent
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

November 2020

- 3 Nov, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members, Paul Harris, Bryan Richardson, Darryl Segraves, and Darryl Segraves. Post 197 Chaplain Darryl Segraves provided the Prayer.
- 7 Nov, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted an American Legion/Post 197/Veteran information booth at the Peach State Aerodrome Veterans Day Program at Candler Field, Williamson, GA. AL Stefan Huckaby provided his Army 2-1/2 Ton Cargo Truck and set up an American Legion and Veteran Information Table. AL Paul Chatterton and Stephen Golias set up two inflatable bounce houses as a fundraiser and made \$140 for the Post 197 general fund.
- 8 Nov, 6:00 pm, Post 197 as part of the Legion Family conducted the annual Legion Family Memorial Service and Post Everlasting Ceremony at Moody Daniel Funeral Home. Post 197 honored and conducted Post Everlasting Ceremony for deceased Post members Oscar Purvis, Thomas Payton, Robert Huckaby, Arnold Jones, and Marion Gooden.
- 10 Nov, 3 – 6:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted its annual Veterans Weekend Fundraiser on the Square. Volunteer fundraising team consisted of Paul Chatterton, Neil French, Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Peggi Payton, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff, Dennis Tea. Finance Officer Peggi Payton lead the counting of the monies collected. The team collected just under \$1,700 for the general fund.
- 11 Nov, 11:00 a.m., Post 197 as part of the Legion Family, hosted the 2020 Pike County Veteran's Day Observance Program at the Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Griffin, GA.
- 12 Nov, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly General Membership Meeting through teleconferencing. 9 officers, 1 member, and 1 guest for a total of 11.

Post Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Absent
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained. No finance report provided.

- 19 Nov, 6:00 pm, Executive Committee Meeting (early because of Thanksgiving holiday)
- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------|
| Commander/Historian | Bryan Richardson | Present |
| Sr. Vice Commander | Bill Walker | Present |
| Jr. Vice Commander | Paul Chatterton | Present |
| Jr. Vice Commander | Stephen Golias | Present |
| Adjutant/Service Officer | Dennis Tea | Present |
| Finance Officer | Peggi Payton | Present |

Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Excused
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Excused

A quorum was obtained. Finance status of General Fund at \$4067.82.

21 Nov, 1:00 p.m., Post 197 participated in the Eagle Scout Ceremony of Boy Scout Ethan Sulewski. Commander Richardson was a guest speaker and presented Ethan the American Legion Good Citizenship Award. The Post 197 Color Guard was invited to Post the Colors. Ceremony took place at the Life Springs Church in Meansville, GA.

December 2020

1 Dec, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members, Paul Harris, Stefan Huckaby, and Bryan Richardson. Past Post 197 Chaplain Paul Harris provided the Prayer.

5 Dec, 4:00 p.m. Legion family hosted the Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony at the Pike County Board of Education Meeting Room at the Memorial Annex.

10 Dec, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly General Membership Meeting through teleconferencing. 8 Officers, 2 members, and 1 guest for a total of 11.

Post Officers present:

Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Absent
Sr. EC Member	Steven Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: \$3,505.06

17,21, and 29 Dec, Post 197 volunteer detail of AL Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff moved donated (by SAL 197 Bart Brock) concrete retaining wall block, stabilized the two Post storage trailers, constructed a large fire pit, pavilion patio wall, and centered the Pavilion on the patio.

January 2021

4 Jan, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Stefan Huckaby and Bryan Richardson. Guests were Kathy Richardson and Prayer Power of Georgia

CEO/Chaplain and Past Post 197 Chaplain Ben Maxedon. Chaplain Maxedon provided the Prayer.

9 Jan, 4:00 p.m., Post 197 as part of the Legion Family conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Post pavilion and patio, and honored and retired 147 flags.

13 Jan, 3:00 p.m., Post 197 Commander Bryan Richardson represented the Post at Post member Harold Jennings' memorial and graveside services. Richardson provided Harold Jennings' military biography as part of the graveside service. Also in attendance for Post 197 were Tim Dukes and Talena Smith.

14 Jan, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly General Membership Meeting through teleconferencing. 9 Officers, 1 member, and 1 guest for a total of 11.

Post Officers present:

Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steven Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: \$3,271.85

Darryll Kipp, a new candidate was approved as a new member of the American Legion and Post 197.

25 Jan, 3:30 p.m., The Post 197 Honor Guard represented the Post at Veteran Gordon Sheriff's graveside service at the Westwood Gardens Cemetery in Griffin, GA. Gordon is the brother of Post 197 member Jeffrey Sheriff. Members of the Post 197 Honor Guard were Post Commander Bryan Richardson and Post Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby. Taps was played, the casket flag was folded and presented to the next of kin. Also, in attendance from Post 197 beside Jeff Sheriff was Stephen Golias.

28 Jan, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted an Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing. Officers present were:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Absent
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent

Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby Present

A quorum was obtained.

31 Jan, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m., Legion Family participants were video recorded executing the the annual Four Chaplains Program at the Mount Gilead Baptist Church. Video was loaded on YouTube for the Legion Family and the community to view.

February 2021

2 Feb, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. Commander Richardson provided the Prayer.

8 Feb, 9:00-3:00, Post 197 conducted a work session to identify and remove all food being stored within the Post. Volunteers in attendance were Post 197 members Paul Chatterton, Tim Dukes, Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. Guest were Mandy Floyd, Sam Rhodes, and Kathy Richardson. There was a total of 9 Volunteers.

11 Feb, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly General Membership Meeting through teleconferencing. 10 Officers, 1 member, and 3 guests for a total of 11. Post Officers present:

Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Bill Walker	Late
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steven Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: \$1,933.01

Samuel Rhodes and James Dykes, two new candidates were approved as new members of the American Legion and Post 197.

12 Feb 3:00-6:00 p.m. Post 197 conducted its annual President's Day Weekend Fundraiser on the Square. Volunteer fundraising team consisted of Paul Chatterton, Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. The Team manned the two intersections of highways US 19 and GA 18. Miniature flags were passed out to children and adults in vehicles stopped at the traffic lights as well as adults were given American Legion pamphlets. Finance Officer Peggi Payton lead the counting of the monies collected. The team collected \$1,110.86 for the General fund.

13 Feb, Senior Vice Commander William (Bill) Walker submitted his resignation as a result of promotion and increased duties within the Pike County Sheriff's Office and for personal reasons. Commander accepted resignation on behalf of the

Executive Committee.

28 Feb, the Post 197 Honor Guard provided Casket Guard at the Family Visitation for the family of Post 197 Legionnaire and three War Combat Veteran (WWII, Korea, and Vietnam) Douglas Jones at the Moody Daniel Funeral Home from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

March 2021

1 Mar, Post 197 Commander Richardson provided the military biography at the Memorial Service for Douglas Jones, a Post 197 Legionnaire and three War Combat Veteran (WWII, Korea, and Vietnam) at the Moody Daniel Funeral Home.

2 Mar, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance as AL member Bryan Richardson, and two guests Gerald and Barbara Richardson. Commander Richardson provided the Prayer.

8 Mar, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted a special Executive Committee Meeting through teleconferencing. Officers present were:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Excused
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

Purpose of Special Executive Meeting was for Jr Vice Cdr Chatterton to brief the Post Key Control, Physical Security, and property management. A tour of the facility was conducted to go over Post property.

11 Mar, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted the Monthly General Membership Meeting through teleconferencing. 8 Officers, 7 member, and 3 guests for a total of 18.

Post Officers present:

Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steven Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Absent

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: \$2,646.85

Laurah Rhodes, Gerald Richardson, and Christopher Tea, three new candidates were approved as new members of the American Legion and Post 197.

16 Mar, 3:15 p.m., Commander Richardson was invited by the High School to attend the military commitment of Trayvis L. Lowery to the U.S. Army. Cdr Richardson resented the American Legion Military Commitment Certificate of Commendation to the High School senior and the Blue Star Certificate of Honor to his family.

25 Mar, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted an Executive Committee Meeting

Officers present were:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Excused
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Absent
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Absent

A quorum was not obtained. Information was provided and there was discussion. No decisions made at the meeting.

April 2021

3 Apr, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted a Veteran/Legion Family Information and Pike County Voter Registration Booth at the 2021 Williamson Wisteria Festival. Post 197 Volunteers were Paul Chatterton, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff.

6 Apr, 12:00 p.m., Legion Family conducted Prayer on the Square at the Veterans Memorial. In attendance were AL members Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby Bryan Richardson, and two guests Dawn Golias and her granddaughter Alexandra. Commander Richardson provided the Prayer.

6 Apr, 2:00-9:00 p.m., Post 197 hosted the construction of a handicap ramp for Veteran Bill Weekley and his wife. Also participating in the project were adults and scouts from Scout Troop 465.

8 Apr, 9:00 a.m.- 2:00-p.m. Post 197 hosted the continued construction of a handicap ramp for Veteran Bill Weekley and his wife.

11 Apr, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted its first monthly General Membership Meeting at the Post 197 facility since March of 2020 and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Present were 7 Officers, 4 members, and 1 guest for a total of 12. Post Officers present:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Excused
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present

Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Steven Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained.

General Fund Status: \$2,087.88

Post officer nominations for 2021-2022 were conducted. Nominations:

Commander: Paul Chatterton and Billy Payton

Senior Vice Commander: Sam Rhodes

Two Junior Vice Commanders: Danny Jeffreys and Jeff Sheriff

Adjutant: Stephen Golias and Steven Yerkes

Finance Officer: Peggi Payton and Bryan Richardson

Three Executive Committee Members: Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby, and Laurah Rhodes

14 Apr, 12:00-3:00 p.m. Post 197 hosted the final construction of a handicap ramp for Veteran Bill Weekley and his wife.

29 Apr, 6:00 p.m., Post officers conducted an Executive Committee Meeting

Officers present were:

Commander/Historian	Bryan Richardson	Present
Sr. Vice Commander	Vacant	
Jr. Vice Commander	Paul Chatterton	Present
Jr. Vice Commander	Stephen Golias	Present-Late
Adjutant/Service Officer	Dennis Tea	Present
Finance Officer	Peggi Payton	Present
Sr. EC Member	Billy Payton	Excused
Sr. EC Member	Matt Germain	Present-Late
Sr. EC Member	Steve Yerkes	Present
Chaplain	Darryl Segraves	Absent
Sergeant-at-Arms	Stefan Huckaby	Present

A quorum was obtained. Finance officer provided the General Fund amount of \$1,863.30.

30 Apr: End of report period

Chapter 6

Post Activities: May 2020-April 2021

Robert Huckaby – Legionnaire Funeral: On 13 May, starting at 12:30 p.m. at the Moody Daniel Funeral Home, Post 197 Legionnaires Billy Payton, Sr., Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias were members of the casket pall bearer team. In addition, Post 197 members attended the funeral procession. At Fincher Memorial Cemetery Post 197 Legionnaire Peggi Payton participated as a member of the casket guard team. At the graveside service Post Commander Richardson officiated the service. Other Post 197 members present at the service were Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby (Next of Kin), William Huckaby (Family), Danny Jeffreys, Randy Martin, Jeff Sheriff, Jim Totten, and Steven Yerkes. Legion Family participation and community attendance was still under the Georgia Executive Order for selected population (mainly over 65 years of age, and pre-existing medical issues) “shelter in place” restrictions and social distancing. Steve Yerkes provided a floral arrangement on behalf of the Legion Family. The Legion Family helped host a follow-on reception for the Huckaby family.



Top left photo taken by Peggi Payton: Robert Huckaby's casket transported by pall bearers (Front to rear starting at front left): Meansville Fire Chief Joe Wiley, SAL and Vol firefighter Billy Payton II, Nick Wiley, AL Billy Payton, Sr., AL Paul Chatterton, Melvin Colquet. Stefan Huckaby observing on right and SAL

Bart Brock on left.

Top right photo taken by Jeff Sheriff (from left to right): Pall bearers positioning casket into the “Deuce” for transport from the Funeral Home to the Cemetery SAL Billy Payton II, AL Billy Payton, Sr. and Melvin Colquet.

Bottom left photo taken by Jeff Sheriff: Pall Bearers off-loading casket

Bottom right photo taken by Jeff Sheriff: Pall bearers Melvin Colquet, AL Stephen Golias, SAL Bart Brock, Nick Wiley, AL Paul Chatterton, and SAL Billy Payton II transport casket to the gravesite.

Robert Huckaby – Legionnaire Funeral (Cont):



Top left
taken by
Jeff
Sheriff,
Top right
taken by
Peggi
Payton,
and center
left photos
taken by
Jeff
Sheriff:
Attendees
waiting for
graveside
service to
begin.
Center
right photo
taken by
Peggi

Payton: Fire Chief Joe Wiley and SAL Jedidiah Payton proving Casket Guard.

Bottom left photo taken by Jeff Sheriff: US Flag being presented to next of kin son and Legionnaire Stefan Huckaby.

Robert Huckaby – Legionnaire Funeral (Cont):



Left photo taken by Peggi Payton: ALA Member and niece of Robert Huckaby recanting story of her uncle.

Right photo taken by Peggi Payton: ALA Member, Willa Payton reading a poem.

Pike County Memorial Day Observance Radio Broadcast Program: On 25 May 2020, the Pike County American Legion Family 197 hosted the annual Pike County Memorial Day Observance Program at 10:00 a.m. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic still in force, the Legion Family broadcasted the Program on WKEU “The Rock”, FM 88.9 and AM 1450. This was the first time the Legion Family had conducted a virtual type patriotic program. Memorial Day is normally reserved to honor the military who have died defending the freedoms Americans enjoy every day.

Based on the current pandemic, the Legion Family decided that they would make this an even more special Memorial Day. Times had been rough during the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a war going on, and the front lines were the hospitals and those who responded to patients with the disease. The health care workers and first responders have always been our heroes; however, now more than ever, they were risking their lives and dying helping to save Americans every minute of the day. So, for the program, not only were the military honored and remembered, but also the first responders and health care workers.

The following was the program of activities featured during the radio broadcast:

Welcome Remarks: Post 197 Commander Bryan Richardson

Opening Prayer: Past Post Chaplain Paul Harris

National Anthem: Rebekah Hanson

POW/MIA Tribute: Post 197 Junior Vice Commander Stephen Golias

Memorial Day Remarks: Cdr Richardson

Special Memorial Day Health Care Worker Prayer: John Hanson, Vice President Administrative Services, Grady EMS.

Music: Recorded – Special Health Care Worker Tribute by the cast of *Come From Away* “Somewhere in the Middle of Nowhere”

Special Memorial Day First Responder Prayer: Sons of the American Legion Chaplain, Meansville Volunteer Fire Department Emergency Medical Technician Sergeant and Chaplain Bart Brock

First Responder Last Call: Dispatcher Denise Long, Pike County Sheriff’s Office and
Recorded 3 Siren Blasts

Amazing Grace: Recorded Bagpipe Music

Special Memorial Day Military Prayer: Post 197 Chaplain Darryl Segraves

Three Round Volley: Recorded

Taps: Recorded

Tribute to Fallen Pike County Veterans: Legion Auxiliary, Unit 197 Peggi Payton and Juniors President and Willa Payton

Laying of the Wreath at The Pike County Veterans Memorial: Announced

Music: Recorded – Mariah Carey singing “Hope”

Closing Prayer: Chaplain Brock

Closing Remarks: Cdr Richardson

Closing Music: “America the Beautiful”

Early in the morning, the Pike County Veterans Memorial flags were lowered to half-staff. After the broadcast, Steven Yerkes who is Post 197 Senior Executive Committee Member and owner of Goggans Florist donated and posted a wreath at the Veterans Monument. At noon as per Presidential Executive Order, the flags at the Veterans Memorial were raised.

Annual Award Ceremony: On 30 August 2020, Post 197 conducted its annual Awards Ceremony at 6:00 p.m. at the Moody-Daniel Funeral Home. Presentation of awards was within phased time intervals. Thirty-one awardees and family attended the ceremony. All entering the facility wore masks. Social distancing was enforced. Awards included Continuous Membership certificates for 10 and 5-Years, Post Certificates of Appreciation for community support to the Post and Veterans, Pike County Law Enforcement, Firefighter, and Emergency Service Member of the Year Awards, Certificates of Appreciation to Post 197 Volunteers of the Year, Legionnaire of the Year Award, and Legion Family of the Year Award. Those in attendance receiving awards were:

- William (Bill) Walker: 10-Year Continuous Membership
- Timothy (Tim) Dukes: 5-Year Continuous Membership
- Pike County Journal Reporter (Rachel McDaniel) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Sheriff's Office (Bill Walker) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Georgia Department of Veteran Services (Rob Johnson) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Government Offices (Chairman Briar Johnson and County Manager Brandon Rogers) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Moody-Daniel Funeral Home (Sherri Moody) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Law Enforcement of the Year (Christopher DeMarco) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Pike County Fire Fighter of the Year (Douglas Neath) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Pike County Emergency Medical Services Member of the Year (Bart Brock) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Post 197 Volunteer of the Year (Stefan Huckaby) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Runner-up Volunteer of the Year (Jeff Sheriff) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year (Melissa Patten) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Legion Family of the Year – Harmon Family (Joseph Harmon & Marie Eason) Post 197 Certificate

Not in attendance receiving awards:

- 10 Year Continuous Membership: April Asher, Brian Callaway, Merrill Hammock, Howard (Danny) Jeffreys, and Jimmy Pitts
- 5 Year Continuous Membership: Michael (Steve) Hicks, Pasquale L. Pietrefesa, Talena Smith, Harold (Hal) Williams, and James Wilson
- Pike County Times (Becky Watts) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County School Operations (Sherry Westbrook) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year (Dennis Tea, Peggi Payton, and Willa Payton) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation

- Post 197 Legionnaire of the Year (Dennis Tea)



All photos on this page provided by Rachel McDaniel

Top left photo: Tim Dukes receiving 5-Year Continuous Membership Certificate. Cdr Bryan Richardson presenting awards during the ceremony.

Top right photo: SGT Bill Walker receiving the Certificate of Appreciation for the Pike County Sheriff's Office. Bill also received the Year Continuous Membership Certificate

Center left photo: Sherri Moody receiving Certificate of Appreciation for the Moody-Daniel Funeral Home

Center left photo: Chairman Briar Johnson and County Manager Brandon Rogers receiving the Certificate of Appreciation for the Pike County Government Officers

Bottom right photo: Rob Johnson receiving Certificate of Appreciation for the Georgia Department of Veterans Services – Griffin Field Office.

Bottom right photo: Doug Neath receiving Pike County Fire Fighter of the Year Award.



Top left photo (provided by Rachel McDaniel):

Lieutenant Bart Brock and SAL member receiving Emergency Service Member of the Year Award.

Top right photo (provided by Kathy Richardson): ALA Melissa Patten receiving Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year Certificate, AL Stefan Huckaby receiving Post 197 Volunteer of the Year Certificate, and AL Jeff Sheriff receiving Post 197 Runner-up Volunteer of the Year Certificate.

Center left photo (provided by Rachel McDaniel): Rachel McDaniel receiving Certificate of Appreciation for the Pike County Journal Reporter.

Center right photo (provided by Rachel McDaniel): Assistant Special Agent In Charge Chris DeMarco receiving Pike County Law Enforcement of the Year Award.

Bottom photo: AL Joe Harmon and wife Marie Eason receiving Post 197

Legion Family of the Year Certificate.

Pike County Patriot Day Observance Memorial Display: On 11 September 2020, the Legion Family conducted a Pike County Patriots Day (9-11) observance for the community. This year because of the pandemic, the Legion Family conducted a modified observance in front (southside) of the Pike County Courthouse. Starting at 10:00 a.m., a 9-11 Memorial was on display until 3:00 p.m. for the public to view. The memorial honored the 2,799 victims who perished that fateful day on 11 September 2001. The 343 fire fighters, 60 law enforcement officers, 8 Emergency Medical Technicians, and 55 military were also honored. 9-11 fact sheets were also available for reading. While the display was occurring, Post 197 Volunteers were manning a Legion Family/Veteran information table and conducting voter registration. Event Volunteers consisted of Matt Germain, Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff from Post 197, Bart Brock from Squadron 197, and Brandon Rogers and Kathy Richardson from the community.



Top left and right photos: 9-11 Memorial display.

Center left photo: Post 197 Honor Guard consisting of from left to right are Sgt-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby, Sr. Executive Committee Member Matt Germain, Commander Bryan Richardson, and Jr. Vice Cdr and Honor Guard Officer-in-Charge Stephen Golias.

Center right photo: Manning the American Legion and Voter Registration Table, Legionnaire Jeff Sheriff, B. Richardson, S. Huckaby, M. Germain, and S. Golias.



Bottom left photo: Locals viewing 9-11 Memorial along with members of the Honor Guard providing information.

Bottom right photo: Honor Guard conducting training and providing additional attraction during Patriot Day activities.

Pike County National POW/MIA Recognition Day Memorial Display: On 18 September, Post 197 conducted the Pike County National POW/MIA Recognition Day observance. Due to the effects of the pandemic, Post 197 conducted a modified observance in front (southside) of the Courthouse. Starting at 10:00 a.m., a POW/MIA table and chair static memorial was on display, as well as POW/MIA fact books and the military biographies of four Pike County former POWs and current MIAs. The tribute was on display until 3:00 p.m. for the public to view. While the display was occurring, Post 197 Volunteers manned an American Legion/Veteran information table as well as voter registration. All photos provided by Bryan Richardson.



Top left and right photos: POW/MIA Memorial Display



Center left photo: POW/MIA Fact Books and Military Bios of SSG Joel Matthews WWII MIA, PVT Marion Smoot WWII POW and MIA, CPO Willie King Vietnam MIA, and Lenard Daugherty former Vietnam POW. All from Pike County.

Center right photo: POW/MIA Memorial Displays with Jr. Vice Cdr Stephen Golias manning the American Legion/Veteran Information and Voter Registration table.

Bottom left and right photos: James King, brother of MIA Willie King and Charles King nephew of MIA Willie King.

Military Commitment and Blue Star Family Award Presentation: On 23 September at 3:45 p.m., Commander Bryan Richardson was invited by the high school to attend the military commitment of Alyssa Cato and Devin Forde to the U.S. Marines. Cdr Richardson presented the American Legion Military Commitment Certificate of Commendation to the two high school seniors and the Blue Star Certificate of Honor to their families.



Right and left photos provided by Helen Fordham: Left photo, front row: PCHS Senior and Marine enlistee Alyssa Cato and SSGT Drew N. Harmon. Back row: Bryan D. Richardson Commander American Legion Pike County Post 197 and James Stanford PCHS Assistance Principal. Right photo, front row: Devin Forde with others on left photo.

Zebulon 5K/10K Run/Walk Fundraiser: On 26 September 2020, after two postponements, Post 197 finally conducted its 11th 5K/10K Fun Run/Walk in the city of Zebulon. COVID-19 safety measures were implemented at the registration area. The weather was awesome, participants enjoyed the 5K and 10 K courses, and overall, the fundraiser was a success. There were 44 sponsors and 30 people registered to participate. Profits after expenses for the fundraiser totaled \$3,862.36. Legion Family Volunteers consisted of Bryan Richardson (AL) Event Director, AL members Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Jeff Sheriff; SAL member Bart Brock, and Kathy Richardson.



Photos provided by participant Christine Curry.

Top Left photo: Registration area entry with Event Director and Legionnaire Bryan Richardson and assistant Post 197 Legionnaire Stephen Golias at the registration table.

Top right photo: Close up of Richardson and Golias.

Bottom photo: Participant Susan Burkes at the registration table.

Legion Family Annual Memorial Service and Post Everlasting Ceremony: This year this event was postponed from May to 8 November because of the Corona Virus Pandemic. The event started at 6:00 p.m. at the Moody Daniel Funeral Home. This year, the Legion Family honored five Post 197 members who passed away with a Memorial Service and Post 197 conducted a Post Everlasting Ceremony for the deceased Post members: Oscar Purvis, Thomas Payton, Robert Huckaby, Arnold Jones, and Marion Gooden. Attendance was limited and Corona Virus pandemic safety precautions of masking wearing and social distancing were encouraged. About 40 participants and guests were in attendance.



Top left photo (Provided by Danny Powell): Photograph and Post Everlasting Certificate jackets of the deceased Post 197 members.

Top center photo (Remaining photos taken by Jeff Sheriff): Commander Richardson and master of Ceremonies just prior to the start of the Program.

Top right photo: Senior Vice Commander, Matt Germain reading the military biography of deceased Legionnaire Arnold Jones.

Center left Photo: M. Germain presenting widow Brenda Jones and daughter Cassandra Hettermann with Post Everlasting Certificate.

Center, center photo: Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby reading the military biography of deceased Legionnaire Marion Gooden.

Center right photo: S. Huckaby presenting widow Edith Gooden with Post Everlasting Certificate.

Bottom photo: American Legion Auxiliary Melissa Patten providing the program closing Prayer.

Veterans Day: On Wednesday, 11 November 2020 at 11:00 a.m., the Pike County American Legion Family hosted the annual 2020 Pike County Veterans Day Observance Program at the inclement location in the Mount Gilead Baptist Church on Highway US 19, north of Zebulon. The public was invited to attend this special event. Corona Virus pandemic safety precautions of mask wearing and social distancing were encouraged. The Veterans Day Program recognized and honored America's military Veterans, extended the Nation's appreciation, and payed tribute to all deceased Veterans. The theme of the Program was "Why do we have a Veterans Day." Highlights of the Program were recognizing those Veterans in attendance with the playing of the Armed Forces Medley patriotic music, the posting of a wreath and the playing of "Taps" About 40 people attended the ceremony. VIPs in attendance were State Representative Ken Pullin, State Representative-Elect Beth Camp, and Chairman of the Pike County Board of Commissioners Briar Johnson.



Top left photo Provided by Kathy Richardson: Legion Family Color Guard consisting of (from left to right) Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Matt Germain, and Jason Patten.

Top right photo Provided by K. Richardson: Color Guard posting the Colors.

Bottom left photo provided by K. Richardson: State Republican Ken Pullen providing remarks. Commander Richardson, Master of Ceremony

off to the right.

Bottom right photo provided by K. Richardson: State Representative-Elect Beth Camp providing remarks.

Veterans Day Continued



Top left photo provided by K. Richardson: Chairman of the Pike County Board of Commissioners Briar Johnson providing remarks.

Top center photo, provided by Jeff Sheriff: Pastor Fred Thompson, Senior Pastor of the Mt Gilead Baptist Church providing the introduction to his Special Veterans Day Prayer.

Top right photo provided by K. Richardson: Post 197 Honor Guard of Stephan Golias and Stefan Huckaby ready to post the wreath.

Center left photo provided by J. Sheriff: Cdr Bryan Richardson with Honor Guard presenting arms during the playing of "Taps".

Center right Photo provided by K. Richardson: Past Chaplain Paul Harris providing the closing Prayer.

Bottom photo provided by John Ellis: (From left to right) Cdr Bryan Richardson, State Rep Ken Pullin, State Rep-Elect Beth Camp, Chairman Briar Johnson.

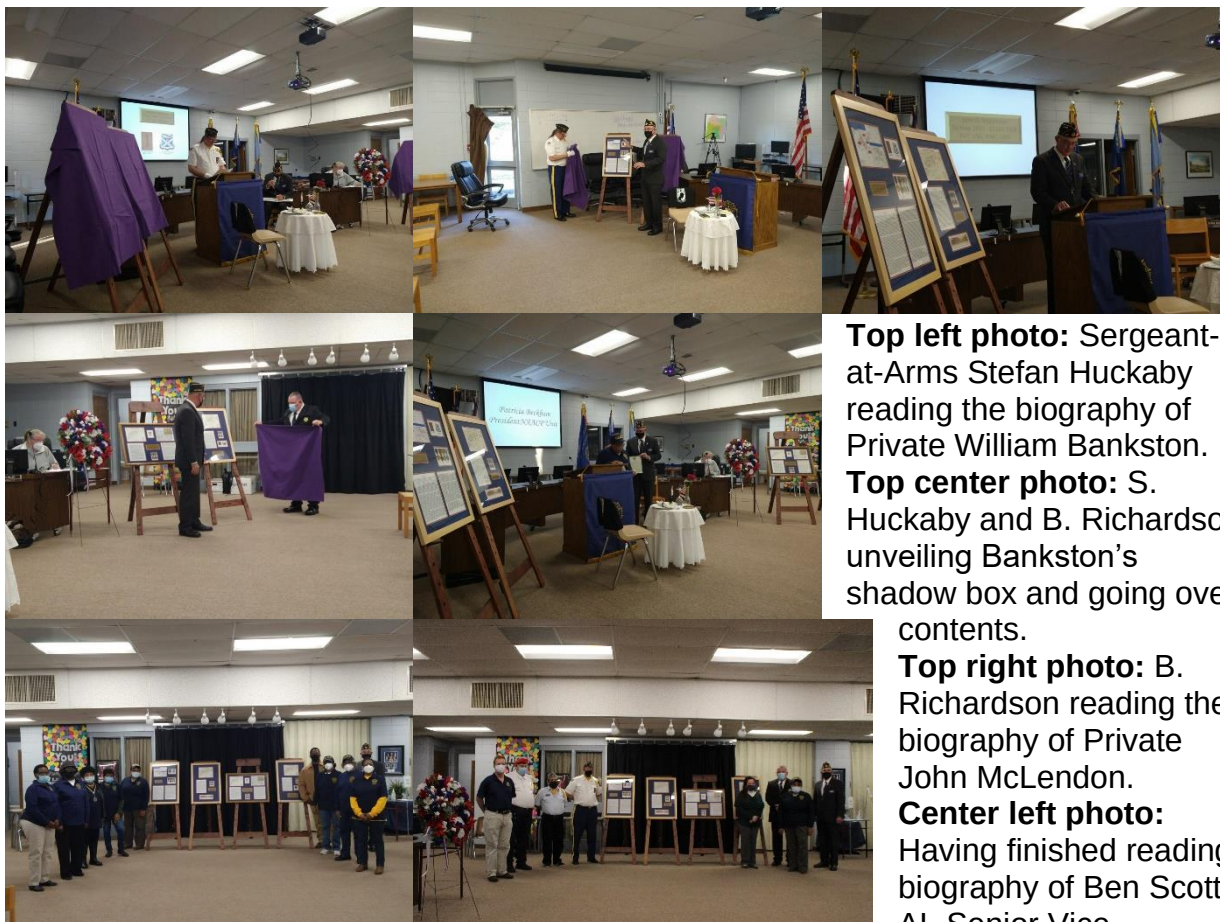
Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony: On 5 December 2020, the Legion Family 197 hosted the eight annual Pike County Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony at the Pike County Memorial Annex. The Class of 2020 Inductees were William Bankston, Green Blackman, John McLendon, and Ben Scott all died in the line of duty during WWI. The Memorial Annex Induction Ceremony Program featured the reading of the inductee's biographies by Post 197 Stefan Huckaby, Jeff Sheriff, Bryan Richardson, and Bill Walker, and the unveiling of the Inductee's shadow boxes which are now mounted on the walls of the Memorial Annex with the other 25 past inductees for a total of 29. Master of Ceremonies (MC), Program and Event Director was Post 197 Commander and Historian Bryan Richardson. SAL Chaplain Bart Brock provided the Opening Prayer, and ALA Melissa Patten provided the Closing Prayer. The Multi-organizational Color Guard consisting of Post Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby, Lieutenant Bart Brock of the Meansville Volunteer Fire Department, and Sons of the American Legion Squadron Jason Patten. MC Bryan Richardson provided Introductory, Induction, WWI history and African American remarks. Patricia Beckham, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) presented a Unit Resolution of Respect and Honor to Commander Richardson which will be mounted in the WWI area of the Memorial Annex. Taps was played in honor of the four Inductees. Members of Pike County NAACP Unit 5228 represented the families of the three inducted African Americans and the remaining attendees represented the family of the remaining inductee. VIPs were Pike County NAACP Unit 5228 President Patricia Beckham and School Board of Education member Floyd Miller. Significant donors of this year's program were the Pike County American Legion Post 197, Pike County Board of Education, and the Griffin Gallery.



Left photo (All photos but last provided by Jeff Sheriff): Photo of attendees complying with the Corona Virus pandemic safety precautions.

Center photo: SAL Chaplain and Meansville Volunteer Fire Department Chaplain Bart Brock providing the Program Opening Prayer.

Right Photo: Multi-Organizational Color Guard consisting of Post 197 Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby, Lieutenant Bart Brock from the Meansville Volunteer Fire Department representing first responders, and SAL Jason Patten of Squadron 197 posting the Colors and providing honors during the playing of the National Anthem. Post 197 Commander and Master of Ceremonies, Bryan Richardson also providing honors.



Top left photo: Sergeant-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby reading the biography of Private William Bankston.

Top center photo: S. Huckaby and B. Richardson unveiling Bankston's shadow box and going over contents.

Top right photo: B. Richardson reading the biography of Private John McLendon.

Center left photo: Having finished reading biography of Ben Scott, AL Senior Vice

Commander and Sergeant of Pike County Sheriff's Office William (Bill) Walker unveils Scott's shadow box and B. Richardson goes over the contents.

Center right photo: Patricia Beckham, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) reads Pike County NAACP Unit 5228's Resolution of Respect and Honor and presents to Post 197 Commander/Program Director B. Richardson.

Bottom left photo (From left to right): Brenda Mathis-NAACP, Shirley Flemister-NAACP, Annie Hines-NAACP, Olivia Holmes-NAACP, Patricia Beckham-President NAACP Unit 5227, Right Veronica Evans-NAACP, Jewette Britt-NAACP, Jackie Shannon-NAACP, Floyd Miller-Pike County Board of Education, and B. Richardson-Commander Post 197.

Bottom right photo: Program participants from left to right are AL Jeff Sheriff – Biography reader and event photographer, SAL Bart Brock opening Prayer and Color/Honor Guard member, SAL Jason Patten Color/Honor Guard member, Stefan Huckaby Color/Honor Guard lead and biography reader, ALA Melissa Patten closing Prayer, AL Bill Walker biography reader, President of the Pike County NAACP Unit #5228 Patricia Beckham special presentation, and AL Bryan Richardson event director, master of ceremonies, and biography reader.

Post Pavilion Refurbishment and Patio and Fire Pit Construction: On 17,21, and 29 December, Post 197 Volunteers cleared area consisting of assorted retaining wall concrete block, loaded a trailer, and off-loaded block. Block was used to stabilize the two post supply trailers, construct a large fire pit on the outdoor patio, line the outdoor patio with block, and center, anchor, and refurbish the Post Pavilion. The concrete retaining wall block was donated by SAL member Bart Brock. Volunteers consisted of AL Paul Chatterton, Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff.

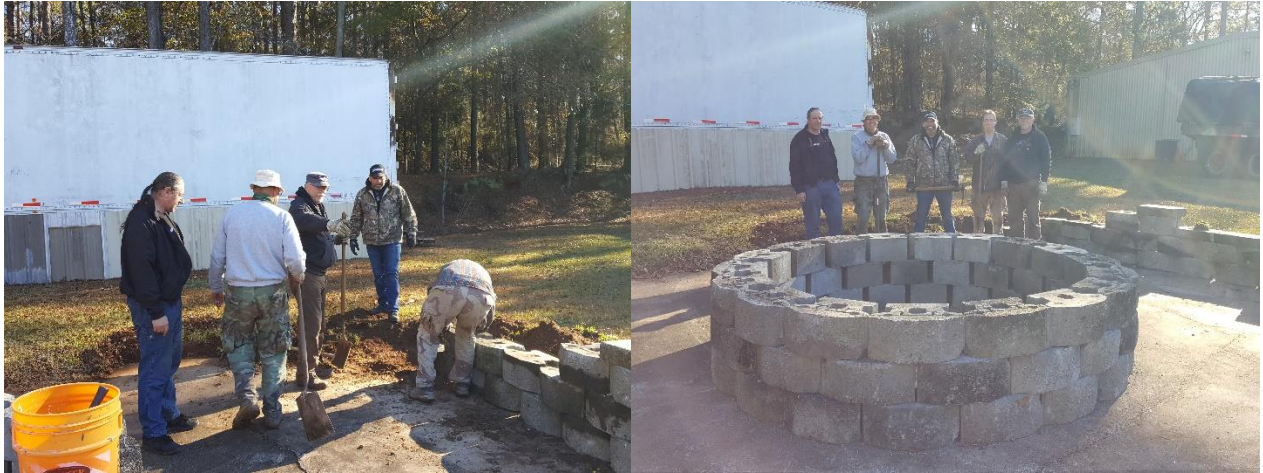


Top left photo taken by Paul Chatterton: Concrete retaining wall block pile on the third day. Donated concrete block came for SAL member Bart Brock's property.

Top right photo taken by Paul Chatterton: Another angle of the concrete retaining wall block pile.

Bottom left phot taken by Paul Chatterton: Third day trailer load of concrete block.

Bottom right photo taken by Kathy Richardson: First day partial trailer load.



Top left photo taken by Kathy Richardson: First day volunteers working of patio retaining wall. Post 197 Volunteers from left to right: Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, Stephen Golias, Paul Chatterton, and Jeff Sheriff.

Top right photo taken by Kathy Richardson: First day Volunteers from left to right: Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, Paul Chatterton, Jeff Sheriff, and Stephen Golias. Constructed fire pit in the foreground.

Flag Retirement Ceremony: Due to the pandemic, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 had to cancel its annual 14 June 2020 Flag Day and Flag Retirement Ceremony. As a result, Post 197 accumulated 174 flags that were old, faded, tattered and/or frayed from the community that needed to be honorably retired. On Saturday, 9 January 2021, the American Legion Family 197 conducted a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the Post pavilion and patio next to Post building. The ceremony commenced at 4:00 p.m. The program master of Ceremonies was Post 197 Commander Bryan Richardson. The program included opening and closing Prayers by Sons of the American Legion Squadron 197 Chaplain Bart Brock and American Legion Auxiliary member Melissa Patten, Flag Folding Ceremony conducted by Post 197 Color Guard Stephen Golias and Stefan Huckaby, Posting of a casket size US flag by the Legion Family 197 Color Guard consisting of Post 197 members Stephen Golias, Stefan Huckaby, Matt Germain, and Sons of the American Legion Squadron 197, Jason Patten; and the playing of the National Anthem. The program also included the official Flag Retirement Ceremony by selected officers (Commander Bryan Richardson, Senior Vice Commander Bill Walker, and Junior Vice Commander Stephen Golias) of Post 197 and every one present had the chance to be a part of giving each flag an honorable retirement, as well as Taps was play in honor of all who died defending our national flag and all it represents. The ceremony was intended to retire each flag with honorable disposition by fire. The weather was chilly and cloudy, but no rain. There were 12 total attendees and participants.



Top Left Photo (Provided by Bryan Richardson): 174 flags ready for retirement.
Center Photo (All remaining photos provided by Jeff Sheriff): Final minutes prior to the start of the Program. From left to right: Jason Patton, Bill Walker, Stephen Golias, and Bryan Richardson.
Bottom photo: Opening Prayer being given by SAL Chaplain Bart Brock. From left to right: Matt Germain, Stephen Golias, behind is Stefan Huckaby, Bart Brock, and Bryan Richardson.

Flag Retirement Ceremony (Continued)



Top left photo: Post 197 Color Guard members Stephen Golias and Stefan Huckaby preparing the flag for the first fold.

Top right photo: Flag being prepared for the National Anthem and raising. Legion Family Color Guard from left to right: Stefan Huckaby, Stephen Golias, Jason Patten, and Matt Germain.



Center left photo: Flag raised and Honor Guard providing honors. From left to right: Stefan Huckaby, Stephen Golias, Jason Patten, and Matt Germain.



Center right photo: Legion Family conducting the Flag Retirement Ceremony flag honoring duties: From left to right: Jason Patten, Bryan Richardson, Matt Germain, Bill Walker, Neal French, Stephen Golias, and Stefan Huckaby.



Bottom left photo: Continued Flag Retirement Ceremony flag honoring duties. From left to right: Neal French, Stefan Huckaby, Stephen Golias, Jason Patten, and Bill Walker.

Bottom right photo: Continued Flag Retirement Ceremony flag honoring duties. From left to right: Neal French, Bill Walker, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Stephen Golias.

A movie poster for the film "The Four Chaplains". The top half features a composite image of four U.S. Army chaplains in uniform. They are set against a background map of the North Atlantic Ocean. The map includes labels for "Greenland Sea", "Iceland", "Baffin Is. (Canada)", and "resbysund". It also shows latitude and longitude markers: "0°", "72°N", "48°N", and "24°". A scale bar indicates "400 mi" and "km". A small illustration of a ship is visible on the right side of the map. Below the image, the title "THE FOUR CHAPLAINS" is written in large, bold, green capital letters. Underneath the title, the subtitle "SACRIFICE AT SEA" is written in smaller, green capital letters, followed by a small five-pointed star. At the bottom, a paragraph of text reads: "The true story of four World War II U.S. Army chaplains who made the ultimate sacrifice so others could live."

A movie poster for the film "The Four Chaplains". The top half features a composite image of four U.S. Army chaplains in uniform. They are set against a background map of the North Atlantic Ocean. The map includes labels for "Greenland Sea", "Iceland", "Baffin Is. (Canada)", and "resbysund". It also shows latitude and longitude markers: "0°", "72°N", "48°N", and "24°". A scale bar indicates "400 mi" and "km". A small illustration of a ship is visible on the right side of the map. Below the image, the title "THE FOUR CHAPLAINS" is written in large, bold, green capital letters. Underneath the title, the subtitle "SACRIFICE AT SEA" is written in smaller, green capital letters, followed by a small five-pointed star. At the bottom, a paragraph of text reads: "The true story of four World War II U.S. Army chaplains who made the ultimate sacrifice so others could live."



All photos provided by Jeff Sheriff.

Top left photo:

Program Legion Family Color Guard consisting of Post 197 Jr Vice Cdr Stephen Golias, Sgt-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby, and Sr Executive Committee Member Matt Germain; AL Unit 197 Secretary Brenda Runyon; and SAL Sqdn 197 Jason Patten.

Top right photo: Special guest Millie Smith sings the National Anthem as

Color Guard Team members Stephen Golias and Stefan Huckaby and Cdr Bryan Richardson provide honors.

Center left photo: SAL Jason Patten lead the Pledge of Alligiance as Dawn Golias and Ben Maxedon video tape the Program.

Center right photo: Post 197 Sgt-at-Arms Stefan Huckaby presents the The Dorchester as Cdr and Master of Ceremonies Bryan Richardson looks on.

Bottom left photo: AL Melissa Patten presents The Attack as B. Richardson looks on.

Bottom right photo: AL Unit 197 Secretary Brenda Runyon presents The Actions Taken as B. Richardson looks on.



Top left photo:

Post 197 Tim Dukes presents Chaplain Alexander Goode's biography. B. Richardson looks on.

Top right

photo: Having presented Chaplain John Washington's biography, Post 197 Talena Smith lights the candle in memory and adds the black ribbon on his

photo. the

Center left photo:

Having presented Chaplain Clark Poling's biography, Post 197 Sr.

Executive Committee Member Matt Germain lights the candle in memory and adds the black ribbon on his photo.

Center right photo:

SAL Sqdn Jr. Vice Cdr Casey Young presents Chaplain George Fox's biography.

Bottom photo, entire group from left to right:

Millie Smith, SAL Casey Young, ALA Talena Smith, AL Ben Maxedon, Fred Thompson, AL Stephen Golias, ALA Melissa Patten, AL Stefan Huckaby, ALA Brenda Runyon, AL Tim Dukes, SAL Jason Patten, AL Bryan Richardson, AL Matt Germain, AL Jeff Sheriff

Fundraiser on the Square: On 12 February from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Post 197 conducted its annual President's Day Weekend Fundraiser on the Square. The Volunteer fundraising team consisted of Post 197 legionnaires Paul Chatterton, Matt Germain, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. The Team manned the two intersections of highways US 19 and GA 18. Miniature flags were passed out to children and adults in vehicles that stopped at the traffic lights as well as adults were given American Legion information cards. The multi-tasking team engaged with the public, dodged vehicles, responded to questions, had to convince Veterans to join the American Legion, entertained children in vehicles, and promoted patriotism, while at the same time solicited much needed donations. After the fundraising, Finance Officer Peggi Payton lead the counting and verification of the monies collected. The team collected \$1,110.86 for the General fund. All photos were taken by Paul Chatterton.



Top left photo: Jeff Sheriff promoting patriotism on US Highway 19 South.

Top center photo: Stefan Huckaby greeting incoming traffic on west side GA Highway 18.

Top right traffic: Stefan Huckaby ready to give out a flag and info brochure on west side GA Highway 18.

Bottom left photo: Matt Germain taking a short break between the red

traffic lights on GA Highway 18.

Bottom Center photo: Bryan Richardson waiting for incoming traffic on US Highway 19 North.

Bottom right photo: Jeff Sheriff conversing with a Veteran supporting donor.

Fundraiser on the Square (Cont)



Left Photo: Matt Germain waiting for the light to turn green on GA Highway 18 between lights.

Right Photo: Bryan Richardson returning to the traffic light and the light to turn red for another round of engaging and dodging traffic.

Williamson Wisteria Festival: On 3 April from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Post 197 conducted a Veteran/Legion Family Information and Pike County Voter Registration Booth. Post 197 Volunteers were Paul Chatterton, Stefan Huckaby, Bryan Richardson, and Jeff Sheriff. Legionnaires Dennis Tea and Randy Martin were also at the festival conducting other Volunteer work: Pike County Tractor and City of Williams, respectively. Post 197 talked to a few interested Veterans in joining the Post as well as obtained two new voters for Pike County.



Photo provided by Bryan Richardson, from left to right: Bryan Richardson, Paul Chatterton, Jeff Sheriff, and Stefan Huckaby.

Veteran Ramp Project: In early April 2021, Commander Richardson of the Pike County American Legion Post 197 received a request for a ramp to be constructed for Veteran Bill Weekley's wheel chair bound wife. Commander Richardson sent out a request for Volunteers. Representatives from the Legion Family and Scout Troop 465 answered the call. Donations were provided for the material. Based on a reconnaissance of the site and ramp material requirements, the project appeared to be an easy task. A one day event was scheduled on 6 April starting at 4pm and finishing at dusk. Material was purchased and delivered at 2pm. Generally, the hardest part of a ramp construction is the preparation of the ground for the ramp supports. This ended up becoming an unexpected monumental task, which consumed much of the Volunteer's time. Needless to say, the ramp was not completed that day. On 6 April Volunteers arrived at 9am to continue the project. All was going well until the team realized they were short some railing lumber. After some inclement weather and busy schedules, Volunteers met again at 1pm on 14 April with the required lumber to finish the project. Final outcome was a happy Veteran and his wife. During the three day ordeal, Volunteers were from the Legion Family: Paul Chatterton, Stefan Huckaby, Dave Porter and Kathy his wife, Sam Rhodes, Dennis Tea, Jeff Sheriff; and representing Scout Troop 465 were : Stephanie and William Perdue, Marissa, Adora Chatterton, Shane Perdue, and Mandee Floyd.



Top photos provided by Dave Porter. Top left photo, 6 April, from left to right: Marissa , Stephanie Perdue, William Perdue, Stefan Huckaby, Bill Weekley, Jeff Sheriff, Dave Porter, and Bryan Richardson.

Top right photo, 8 April, from left to right: Dave Porter, William Perdue, Shane Perdue, Bill Weekley, and Bryan Richardson.

Bottom photo, 14 April, from left to right: Paul Chatterton, Bryan Richardson, Bill Weekley, Stefan Huckaby, Sam Rhodes, Bill Weekley, Dave Porter, Kathy Porter, Mandee Floyd.

Chapter 7

Post Awards and Citations Received

None.

Chapter 8

Post Awards and Citations Presented

30 Aug, 6:00 p.m. Post 197 Conducted is annual Awards Ceremony. Those in attendance receiving awards were:

- 10-Year Continuous Membership: April Asher, Brian Callaway, Merrill Hammock, Howard (Danny) Jeffreys, and Jimmy Pitts William (Bill) Walker:
- 5 Year Continuous Membership: Timothy (Tim) Dukes, Michael (Steve) Hicks, Pasquale L. Pietrefesa, Talena Smith, Harold (Hal) Williams, and James Wilson
- Pike County Times (Becky Watts) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Journal Reporter (Rachel McDaniel) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Sheriff's Office (Bill Walker) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County School Operations (Sherry Westbrook) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Georgia Department of Veteran Services (Rob Johnson) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Government Offices (Chairman Briar Johnson and County Manager Brandon Rogers Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Moody-Daniel Funeral Home (Sherri Moody) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Pike County Law Enforcement of the Year (Christopher DeMarco) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Pike County Fire Fighter of the Year (Douglas Neath) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Pike County Emergency Medical Services Member of the Year (Bart Brock) Post 197 sponsored plaque
- Post 197 Volunteer of the Year (Stefan Huckaby) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Runner-up Volunteer of the Year (Jeff Sheriff) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Honorable Mentioned Volunteer of the Year (Dennis Tea, Melissa Patten Peggi Payton, and Willa Payton) Post 197 Certificate of Appreciation
- Post 197 Legion Family of the Year – Harmon Family (Joseph Harmon & Marie Eason) Post 197 Certificate
- Post 197 Legionnaire of the Year (Dennis Tea)

American Legion Military Commitment Certificate awarded to:

- Alyssa S. Cato dated 23 September 2020
- Devin M. Forde, dated 23 September 2020
- Trayvis L. Lowery, dated 16 March 2021

American Legion Blue Star Certificate presented to:

- The Cato Family, dated 23 September 2020
- The Forde Family, dated 23 September 2020
- The Lowery Family, dated 16 March 2021

Good Citizen Citation awarded to:

- Eagle Scout Ethan J. Sulewski dated 21 Dec

In addition to above, throughout the year 1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021, the Commander awarded 9 American Legion Coins, 5 American Legion Certificates of Appreciation and 192 Letters of Appreciation for community service, volunteerism, donations, and sponsorship.

Year	Legionnaire of the Year	Legion Family of the Year
2008-9		
2009-10	Billy J. Payton	
2010-11	Benjamin R Maxedon	
2011-12	Daniel A. Kiser	
2012-13	Stefan R. Huckaby	
2013-14	Peggi J. Payton	
2014-15	Bryan D. Richardson	Payton Family (First awarded)
2015-16	Robert L. Huckaby	Dials Family
2016-17	Paul Harris	Jeffreys Family
2017-18	Steven T. Yerkes	Dayhuff Family
2018-19	Steven T. Yerkes	Payton Family
2019-20	Dennis D. Tea	Harmon Family

Year	Volunteer of the Year
2019-20	Stefan R. Huckaby (First awarded)

Chapter 9

Post Roster of Members: May 2020-April 2021

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Andrews, George H.	1			
Artinger, Steven	1			
Asher, April	1			
Bell, Ewell T.	1			
Bond, Daniel S.	1			
Boronkas, Edward A.	1			
Brannon, John	1			
Brown, Richard A..	1			
Callaway, Brian T.	1			
Caraway, Fred O.	1			
Chatterton, Paul R.	1			
Childree, John	1			
Clark, Robert D.	1			
Dukes, Timothy H.	1			
Dykes, James		1		
Ellis, John R.	1			
Farr, Harry E.	1			
Faulds, Paul	1			
Floyd, Greg A.				1
French, Arthur N.	1			
Gaulding, James R.	1			
Germain, Wayne (Matt) L	1			
Golias, Stephen A.	1			
Golias, Wendell A.			1	
Gooden, Marion			1	
Hammock, Merrill G.	1			
Hammond, Doug	1			
Harmon, Joseph R.	1			
Harris, Paul	1			
	25	1	2	1

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Hicks, Michael S.	1			
Huckaby, Robert L.			1	
Huckaby, Stefan R.	1			
Huckaby, William L. Jr	1			
Hughley, Roy	1			
Jeffreys, Howard D.	1			
Jennings, Harold O.			1	
Jones, Arnold			1	
Jones, Douglas E. Sr			1	
King, Timothy	1			
Kipp, Darryll		1		
Lawrence, James W.			1	
Lowery, Julian	1			
Manley, Jeremiah	1			
Marshburn, Donald K.	1			
Martin, Albert R.	1			
Maxwell, Walter, J.	1			
McClanahan, Billy L. (Cowboy)	1			
McClelland, Charles W.	1			
Morris, Chad D.				1
Morton, Thomas	1			
Noble, Kenneth C.	1			
Owen, Clifton E.				1
Patten, Patrick A.	1			
Payton, Billy J. Sr.	1			
Payton, Peggi J.	1			
Pearson, Larry D.	1			
Pietrefesa, Pasquale L.	1			
Pitts, Jimmy	1			
Porter, John D.	1			
Pourron, Garrett		1		
Rarrick, A. Woody L.				1
Ray, Kenneth E.	1			
Rhodes, Laurah		1		
Rhodes, Sam		1		
	23	4	5	3

Name	Member	New Member	Deceased Member	Dropped Member
Richardson, Bryan D.	1			
Richardson, Gerald A.		1		
Riley, Kenneth E. II	1			
Rogers, Grady T.	1			
Rounds, Douglas T.			1	
Sawyer, Harold	1			
Scott George L.	1			
Segraves, Darryl	1			
Sheriff, Jeffrey A.	1			
Sherliza, Robert	1			
Singletary, Paul W.	1			
Smith, Talena	1			
Story, Charles M Sr	1			
Tallant, Lewis W. Sr	1			
Tea, Christopher		1		
Tea, Dennis D.	1			
Tigner, Glen D.				1
Totten, James M.	1			
Walker, William B	1			
Walker, William H	1			
Watson, James T.				1
Watts, James A.	1			
Weldon, David E.	1			
Westbrook, Matthew	1			
Wheeler, Chris	1			
Wiggins, John R.				1
Williams, Harold C. III	1			
Williams, Ralph C.	1			
Wilson, James E.	1			
Yerkes, Steven T.	1			
	24	2	1	3
Totals	72	7	8	7
Totals	79		Dropped	15

At the start of the history year, 1 May 2019, the post membership was 94 members. 15 members dropped from the rolls between 1 May and 1 July 2021 due to passing away, two years not paying annual dues, and transfers out.

By the end of the history year, 30 April 2021, the post membership was 79.

Chapter 10

Roster of Delegates, Officers, Appointees to Outside Post American Legion Activities: May 2020-April 2021

Roster of Delegates: Commander did not appoint any delegates.

Officers/Appointees to Outside Post American Legion Activities: None

Billy J. Payton, Sr. Commander, 4th District, Department of Georgia from 1 May to 19 October 2020.

Chapter 11

Past Post Officers: 2008-2021

Below is a roster of past Post officers by year since the Post's established charter.

	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Commander	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.
Adjutant	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.
Finance Officer	Bill J. Payton, Sr.	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Senior Vice	Paul Faulds	Paul Faulds	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Junior Vice	Robert E. Adams, Jr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Junior Vice			
Judge Advocate	Thomas H. Morton	Thomas H. Morton	Thomas H. Morton
Chaplain	Paul Faulds	Paul Faulds	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Service Officer	Robert E. Adams, Jr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Historian	Douglas T. Rounds	Douglas T. Rounds	Glenn R. Abbott
Sargent at Arms	Bobbie Colquitt	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby
Executive Council Members	Howard Rawlins Gerald Spinks Bryan D. Richardson	Howard Rawlins Gerald Spinks	Howard Rawlins Gerald Spinks
	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Commander	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Adjutant	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	James M. Totten	William B. Walker
Finance Officer	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	William B. Walker	James M. Totten/ William B. Walker
Senior Vice	Benjamin R. Maxedon	Daniel A. Kiser	Stefan Huckaby
Junior Vice	Les Bragg	Paul Harris	William C. Dials, II
Junior Vice		Stefan Huckaby	Wayne L. Germain
Judge Advocate	Thomas H. Morton	Robert E. Adams, Jr.	Daniel A. Kiser
Chaplain	Benjamin R. Maxedon	Benjamin R. Maxedon	Benjamin R. Maxedon
Service Officer	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Lawrence E. Brock	Paul Faulds/ Lawrence E. Brock
Historian	Glenn R. Abbott	Donald L. Bailey, Jr.	Glenn R. Abbott/ Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent at Arms	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby
Executive Council Members	None	None	None

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Commander	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Adjutant	Stefan R. Huckaby	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Finance Officer	William B. Walker	Stefan R. Huckaby	William B. Walker
Senior Vice	Wayne L. Germain	Wayne L. Germain	Wayne L. Germain
Junior Vice	William C. Dials, II	William B. Walker	Stefan Huckaby
Junior Vice	Russel Wilson	Curtis Booth	Steven T. Yerkes
Judge Advocate	Robert E. Adams, Jr. Bryan D. Richardson	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Paul Faulds
Chaplain	Paul Harris	Paul Harris	Paul Harris
Service Officer	James M. Totten	James M. Totten	James M. Totten
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson/ Peggi Payton	Peggi Payton
Sargent at Arms	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby	Robert L. Huckaby
Executive Council Members	None	None	Benjamin R. Maxedon
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Commander	Bryan D. Richardson	Joseph R. Harmon	Bryan D. Richardson
Adjutant	Steven T. Yerkes	Steven T. Yerkes	Dennis D. Tea
Finance Officer	Peggi J. Payton	Peggi J. Payton	Peggi J. Payton
Senior Vice	William B. Walker	William B. Walker	William B. Walker
Junior Vice	Stefan R. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby	Paul R. Chatterton
Junior Vice	Matthew Westbrook	Howard D. Jeffreys	Stephen A. Golias
Judge Advocate	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Billy J. Payton, Sr.	Vacant
Chaplain	Paul Harris	Paul Faulds	Darryl B. Segraves/Billy J. Payton, Sr.
Service Officer	James M. Totten	Dennis D. Tea	Dennis D. Tea
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson	Bryan D. Richardson
Sargent at Arms	Robert L. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby	Stefan R. Huckaby
Executive Council Members	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Paul Faulds	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Paul Faulds	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Steven T. Yerkes

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2023-2024
Commander	Bryan D. Richardson		
Adjutant	Dennis D. Tea		
Finance Officer	Peggi J. Payton		
Senior Vice	William B. Walker/Vacant		
Junior Vice	Paul R. Chatterton		
Junior Vice	Stephen A. Golias		
Judge Advocate	Vacant		
Chaplain	Darryl B. Segraves & Billy J. Payton, Sr.		
Service Officer	Dennis D. Tea		
Historian	Bryan D. Richardson		
Sargent at Arms	Stefan R. Huckaby		
Executive Council Members	Billy J. Payton, Sr. Wayne L. Germain Steven T. Yerkes		

Chapter 12

Post 197 History

A group of twenty officers who served in the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in France during World War I is credited with founding The American Legion. AEF Headquarters asked the officers to suggest ideas on how to improve troop morale. One officer, Lt Col Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. proposed an organization of veterans. In February 1919, the group formed a temporary committee and selected several hundred officers who had the confidence and respect of the whole army.

About 1,000 officers and enlisted men attended the Paris Caucus in March 1919. They adopted a temporary constitution and the name, "The American Legion". The group also elected an executive committee to complete the organization's work. It considered each soldier of the AEF a member of the Legion. The executive committee named a subcommittee to organize veterans at home in the United States.

Two months later, in May 1919, the Legion held a second organizing caucus in St. Louis. It completed the constitution and made plans for a permanent organization, setting up a temporary headquarters in New York City and beginning its relief, employment and Americanism programs.

Congress granted The American Legion a national charter in September 1919. The first national convention convened in Minneapolis, adopting a permanent constitution and electing officers to head the organization.

Twenty-seven years after the founding of The American Legion, the first meeting of the American Legion Post 197 of Pike County was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Girtman on May 2, 1946. It was attended by a large number of veterans of both World Wars. Mr. Girtman was the primary force behind the organization of The American Legion Post. The following officers were elected:

- Commander, S.G. Holmes
- Senior Vice-Commander, W.E. Girtman
- Junior Vice-Commander, Jack Sharpe
- Sgt-at-Arms, Gordon Young
- Adjutant, Albert Presley.

The Building Committee was composed of W.E. Girtman, C. Richter Smith Jr., Pete Lee, Lanier Johnson, and Pete Bankston. Those named on the Publicity Committee were Roger Strickland Jr., Nathan Harrison, Hugh White, and Hope White.

On October 7, 1948, it was reported in the Pike County Journal Reporter that the Veteran Training Class, led by the instructor, Sam Lifsey started the campaign for funds to erect a memorial on the courthouse square in Zebulon for the veterans who lost their lives in World Wars I and II. The following resolution had been submitted to the people of Pike County: "Resolved that a memorial for the veterans of both World Wars I and II, who lost their lives in the service of their country, Be subscribed to and erected on the

court house square in Zebulon. It will take the concentrated efforts of all religious and civic organizations, as well as each individual. This resolution is submitted this 23rd day of September, 1948 by the 3rd Veterans Agriculture Class of Pike County. W.S Lifsey Jr., Instructor”

As recorded in the Pike County Journal Reporter, the Pike County Veteran’s Monument commemorating the men who lost their lives in both World Wars I and II was dedicated at an impressive exercise on Sunday afternoon, April 24, 1949. The public was invited, and approximately 300 persons including families of the departed heroes, friends and Legionnaires from Griffin and surrounding communities attended. The program began at 2:30 p.m. with a concert by the 326th Army Band. American Legion Post Commander, Warren E. Girtman introduced Hon. John Goddard of Griffin, who in turn introduced the guest speaker, Rev. Marshall Ellis, Rector of St George’s Church, Griffin and a former Navy Chaplain. Rev. Ellis, in his dedicatory address, paid worthy tribute to those who gave their lives in World Wars I and II. He said, “They laid down their lives and were ushered into Eternal life. They now live with God.” Following the address, the Army Band played Onward Christian Soldiers. Rev. S.A. Dailey pronounced the benediction, after which Taps was sounded. The monument bears the inscription “Dedicated to The Everlasting memory of those from Pike County who gave their lives in the service of their country in World Wars I and II. Names on the monument include:

World War I: A.R Ballard, H.K. Davis, L.R. Davis, L.M. Hooten, J.G. McLendon, H.A. O’Neal, S.S. Self, L.G. Sullivan, and P.M Sullivan.

World War II: C.L. Adams, M.R. Adkerson, R.E. Bishop, G.H. Blankenship, M.R. Carter, J.E. Corley, F.T. Davis, T.C. Gooden, J.C. Hackney, W.F. Harrison Jr., C. Johnson, C.M. Lane, D.E. Ledford, L.T. Marshall, A.L. Marshall, J.M. Matthews, P.L. McLendon, V.L. Middlebrooks, R.E. Oxford, E.E. Presley, W.T. Presley, H.L. Pike, T.J. Sandefur, M.B. Smoot, P.R. Storey, C.H. Tidwell. Colored: E.R. Parks.

Since WWII, E. Coggin and J.C. Alexander were added Killed in Action from the Korean War; and J.T. Harris, G.R. McQuaig (correct spelling is McCuaig), and L.L. Silver were added Killed in Action from the Vietnam War. The line Korea and Vietnam Wars were added to the Monument Dedication.

Charter members of the Post as of June 21, 1950, were: Emory F. Alexander, Pope Banks, James Hartford Bankston, Abram S. Burton, P.W. Carter, R.C. Crawford, Thomas E. Crawford, Owen Caldwell, Roger Dunn, Lamar Dunn, Byron Dunn, Marvin E. Eppinger, Sam D. English, W.E. Girtman, Dr. M.M. Head, J.N. Howard, Clarence Hawkins, Charles F. Harden, Robert Holmes, Shi Holmes, R.C. Johnson, Walt Joyner, Spencer Lifsey, J.M. Means, Hulon A. McKinley, James E. Manoe, Charles J. Minter, Hubert Marshall, John A. Osbolt, John R. Oden, Albert D. Presley, A.W. Quattlebaum, W.S. Rogers, Leland B. Reaves, C.R. Smith, Sr., Paul Scoggins, Cecil Thornton, Aaron Terrell, Robert A. Trawick, Earl Williams, High White, Aurelius F. Woolsey, Gordon Young, Harry A. Hammock, and Marvin E. Gibson.

The Post was one of the most active in the State for a community of Pike County’s size, having 159 members. Commanders and Adjutants have been: C.F. Harden and

J.N. Howard, 1950-51; Clarence Hawkins and J.N. Howard, 1951-52; A.P. Dunn and Lamar Dunn, 1952-53; Emory Alexander and W.T. Baxter, 1953-54; Frank Yeager and Howard Rawlins, 1954-55; James Murphy and Howard Rawlins, 1955-56; Roger Dunn, 1956-57; W.T. Baxter, 1957-58; W.T. Baxter and Harry Rawlins, 1958-59; --- Harry Rawlins and Johnny Knight, 1964-65; Harry Rawlins and Marvin Littleton, 1965-66; Harry Rawlins and Milton Ross, 1966-67; Johnny Knight and Milton Ross, 1967-68; Harry Rawlins and Milton Ross, 1968-69; W.T. Baxter and Milton Ross (Lamar Dunn – Senior Vice Cdr), 1969-70; Terrell Williams and Marvin Littleton, 1970-71; and William TI Baxter and K.N. Lupo, 1971-72.

On 3 March 1966 the American Legion, Post 197 hosted the annual 6th District Oratorical Contest at the Pike County High School. All essays were prepared from the Articles of the Constitution.

On 26 March 1969, the Pike County American Legion Post 197 met in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the organization. Special guests included the 6th District Commander and Vice Commander as well as members from other local posts.

The 1972 members of Post 197 were:

Harold Adkerson	Emory F. Alexander	Glenn H. Allen
John B. Armstead	James L. Ballard	M.D. Ballard
Cadesman P. Banks	Harry L. Banks	J.H. Bankston
William G. Barker	Marcus G. Barnett	William T. Baxter
Johnnie V. Barnett	Larry C. Berry	Charles E. Booker
Wayne O. Brasiel	Russell Brazier	Vernon H. Birchman
Horance Bond	Lawrence E. Brock	Virgil L. Brown
James M. Burden	Wilson W. Bush	Charles Calewell
Jack C. Clark	Clayton A. Coker	Robert R. Collins
Dennis H. Connell	Gloyd C. Cooper	R.D. Crawford
James G. Crayton	Douglas F. Culbreth	Elwood L. Culbreth
Clinton B. Davis	Marion W. Dumas	A.P. Dunn
Lamar E. Dunn	Joseph E. Edwards	William J. Edwards
James R. Elliott	Wilbur C. Elliott	John E. English
Samuel D. English	Glenn A. Eppinger	Olin Garner
Roosevelt T. Gayton	Jack M. Goldman	William R. Goldman
Marion Gooden	David K. Greene	Harry A. Hammond
Merrill G. Hammock	Adron Harden	Charles F. Harden
Wintor H. Harden	R.C. Hawkins	Robert Holmes, Jr.
Shi G. Holmes	P.G. Horne	Dexter T. Huckaby
Bobby L. Hudgen	Hollis J. Hutchinson	Howard M. Jennings
W.D. Jimerson	James F. Johnson	Lanier F. Johnson
Jack F. Jones	William K. Jones	Frank M. King
George E. King	Charlie J. Knight	Charles R. Lamb
Paul W. Landers	Jim B. Lawrence	James M. Littleton
Marvin Littleton	John D. Lowe	Kendall H. Lupo
Howard H. Maddox	Douglas Mangham	Walton E. Mangham

Byron W. Marshall	William D. Martin	Donald McCollough
Ralph C. McDonald	Elijah F. McKinley	Robert F. McKinley
Eddie G. Messer	Roger M. Middlebrooks	Alvin L. Milby
Grant B. Montrose	William A. Morris	James C. Murphy
Michael Nahrebeck	Dewey Nicholson	Willie C. Nixon
Virgil M. Oliver	John A. Osbolt	John M. Parks
James A. Parks	Pete Peterman	D.L. Pitts
Merril G. Pitts	Ronald C. Presley	Randall J. Pryor
Ralph Purvis	Warren W. Quigley	D.B. Rawlins
Howard M. Rawlins	Harry B. Rawlins	James P. Rawlins
Robert H. Rawlins, Jr.	Robert H. Rawlins	Grady Reeves
J.M. Reeves	Joe C. Reid	Robert M. Reid
J. Astor Riggins	William M. Riggins	W.S. Rodgers
Jerry O. Rogers	Milton E. Ross	J.B. Sandifur
Albert L. Sanvidge	Victor C. Sanvidge	Paul Scroggins
David M. Smith	J.B. Smith	T.R. Smith
W.L. Smith	Gerald D. Spinks	Wilburn R. Statham
Alvin F. Stratham	J.M. Sullivan	Wilbur O. Tapley
William Taunton	James M. Towery	William H. Trawick
B.F. Turner	Wendell F. Turner	A.J. Vickers
Jack L. Walker	Garris Wall	Kenneth Q. Ward
Lawrence R. Webb, Sr.	Donald C. Wells	Charles C. Whatley
Charles D. Whatley	Hoyt H. Williams	James F. Williams
James T. Williams	Ralph C. Williams	T.H. Williams
Terrell J. Williams	Robert H. Wright	Frank Al Yeager

In 1974, there was a fire that burnt down the Post facility. In 1975, a new structure was built by the Rawlin's family for Post 197 use. The Post 197 Charter was revoked in 1994, and the facility was granted back to the Rawlin's family.

On 10 May 2008, a group of veterans met on the Court House Square led by Don Bailey and Howard Rawlins with the objective of refurbishing the Veteran's Monument that was structurally cracking due to the heavy traffic moving south on Highway US19/GA3. On 19 July 2008, a second meeting of a group of veterans met on the Courthouse Square led again by Don Bailey with the objective of continued discussion on the refurbishment of the Veteran's Monument and the reestablishment of the old American Legion Post 197. On 13 September 2008, the Veterans met as The American Legion at the Joel Edwards Library in Zebulon. The objectives of the meeting were selecting officers (see Appendix C), reestablishing the charter, discussing the refurbishment of the Veterans Monument, and increasing membership. The Post was allowed to regain its former number of 197. The Post received its Dispensation/Temporary Charter on 9 March 2009 and its Permanent Charter on 28 July 2009.

The official temporary charter members; those that were national at large American Legion members or from some other post members were:

Emory F. Alexander	Donald Bailey, Jr.	George E Bottoms, Jr.
Russell Brazier	John B. Halcomb, Jr.	Robert L. Huckaby
Billy L. McClanahan	Oscar Purvis	Howard M. Rawlins, Sr.
W. Shelor Rodgers	Gerald L. Spinks	William W. Thomas
Steven T. Yerkes		

On 11 March 2009, American Legion Post 197 Senior Executive Committee Member, Bryan Richardson appeared before the Pike County Board of Commissioners to address the plan to refurbish the Monument and to obtain the Board's approval. In addition to the structural refurbishment of the monument, permanent lighting was to be added for night illumination of the National, State, and POW/MIA flags, lamp post for illumination of the memorial at night, and landscaping around the monument. The Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the restoration. The restoration project was under the direction of Post 197 Veterans Howard Rawlins and Gerald Spinks. The monument restoration sponsors were Clark Memorials, Country Corbin's, Moody's Funeral Home, Southern Rivers Energy, and the Zebulon Public Works Department. Work to refurbish the Veteran's Memorial began early November 2010 and was completed in January 2011. As part of the restoration, the name J.D. Walker who was killed-in-action in Iraq was added to the monument. The Pike County Veteran's Memorial was rededicated as part of the Pike County Memorial Day Observance Program on 28 May 2011. During this program, J.D. Walker was honored as the newest addition.



After three years of hard work by many people in the Post and community, The American Legion Post 197 officially returned on 5 October 2011 as renter of the Rawlin's family to the facility it had occupied back in 1994 at 645 Meansville Street, Zebulon, Georgia. The Post members had been meeting at the Joel Edwards Library in Zebulon since September 2008. The grand opening was sponsored by the Pike County Chamber of Commerce with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Post Commander Billy Payton, Sr. welcomed visitors and members to the facility for the first time. 4th District Commander, Jim O'Brien was the guest speaker. The facility belonged to Howard M. Rawlins, Sr. a long standing American Legion Post 197 member. During a 12 November 2012 ceremony that included the Rawlins family, the facility was named the Howard M. Rawlins Sr. Memorial Hall in honor of Mr. Rawlins's passing on 14 August 2012.

On 12 June 2013, The American Legion Post 197 received approval to become incorporated for the purpose of protecting individual members from liability in the event of litigation against the Post and received its Supplemental Charter. The decree was

signed by the National Commander, James E. Koutz and the Georgia Department Commander, William H. Lienhop, Jr.

On 28 September 2013, the Pike County School Board officially dedicated the Memorial Annex Building of the old middle school to be used as the Pike County Memorial Annex Building to be used as a general memorial for all those in Pike County who gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving the community. This includes military, first responders, and sheriff/police departments. The intent is for the building to house memorials for all of the community's fallen heroes. Since this date, the Pike County American Legion has inducted:

- LCPL Jeffery D. Walker - Iraq Killed in Action (28 Sep 2013)
- 1LT Robert E. Oxford - WWII Missing in Action (6 Dec 2014)
- Charles H. Tidwell - WWII Killed in Action, James T. Harris - Vietnam Killed in Action, Glenn R. McCuaig - Vietnam Killed in Action, and Lonnie L. Silver - Vietnam Killed in Action (7 Nov 2015)
- Ralph E. Bishop - WWII Killed in Action, Tilton C. Gooden - WWII Killed in Action, and Joel M. Matthews - WWII Missing in Action (3 Dec 2016)
- Malcom R. Carter - WWII Killed in Action, Virgil L. Middlebrooks - Killed in Action, Willie L. King - Missing in Action / Lost at Sea (2 Dec 2017)
- Arthur R. Ballard - Killed in Action, Herman K. Davis - Killed in Action Leon R. Davis - Died of Decease, Roswell D. Hooten - Died of Decease, Henry A. O'Neal - Killed in Action, Solon S. Self - Killed in Action, Vernon E. Slade - Died of Decease, Pierre M. Sullivan - Died of Decease, Lawrence G. Sullivan - Died of Decease (1 Dec 2018 – All from WWI as part of the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI)
- Johnnie C. Alexander and Earl Coggin – Both Killed in Action in the Korean War, and William O. Gwyn and Thomas J. Slade – Both Pike County Sheriffs killed in the line of duty (7 Dec 2019)

On 21 November 2015, Post 197 Commander Bryan Richardson submitted a letter to Ms. Brenda Turner, daughter of the late Howard Rawlins requesting the use of the larger section still in use for family storage within the building including the Post 197 portion of the building. At a follow-on meeting at the Post between Ms. Brenda Turner and Commander Richardson, Ms. Turner unofficially approved use of the remaining portion of the building.

On 16 April 2016, Ms. Brenda Turner allowed American Legion Auxiliary President Peggi Payton to dispose of the family contents during a yard sale. By the end of the day, the American Legion obtained complete possession of all contents (minus a few major items) within the main building to further dispose. By 30 July 2016, most items have been removed, and the Post conducted its first major function within the entire facility which was the 4th District Installation Ceremony. At a 30 August 2016 meeting between Ms. Brenda Turner and Commander Richardson, a ten-year lease was signed for the use of the building.

As part of the Memorial Day program, on 30 May 2016, Post 197 officially unveiled the name of Chief Petty Officer Willie Lee King (King, W.L.) who died in the sinking of

the USS Frank E. Evans during the Vietnam War to the Pike County Veterans Memorial. At the 11 November 2018 Veterans Day Program, Post 197 officially unveil the name of Wagoner Vernon E. Slade (Slade, V.E.) who died from decease in France in WWI. At the 11 November 2019 Veterans Day Program, Post 197 officially unveil the names of Private William E. Bankson (Bankston, W.E.), Private Green Blackman (Blackman, G.), and Private Ben L. Scott (Scott, B.L.) all died while on orders during WWI.